Phase-I, 32 were commissioned and of these 29 were found functioning. The report also indicates that adequate fund allocation for operation and maintenance of STPs is not provided, particularly in Bihar and UP.

(d) and (e) The Japan International Cooperation Agency of the Government of Japan has recently agreed to provide technical assistance for taking up a development study on 'Water Quality Management Plan for river Ganga'. The objective of the study is to (i) formulate the Master Plan for water quality management for the Ganga basin concerning liquid waste, and (ii) formulate feasibility studies for high priority projects identified in the Master Plan focusing on four towns namely, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi and Lucknow. This study is different than the three studies mentioned in para (c) above as it aims at formulating the remaining works to be taken up over and above those implemented/proposed to be implemented under GAP Phase-I and II in the four towns in the Ganga Basin. It will take two years to complete the study.

Tiger Population

1116. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the tiger population in the country as on date;

(b) the number of tigers reportedly killed during the last two years, year-wise, in different parts of the country; and

(c) the steps taken to manage the sanctuaries and tiger reserves properly and to increase the tiger population?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The estimated tiger population in the country is around 3600.

(b) As per the available reports, during 2001 sixteen tigers and during 2002 (upto October 2002) nine tigers were killed in various parts of the country.

(c) The responsibility for management of Protected Areas having Tiger population rests with State Governments. However, Government of India provides technical and funding support through Centrally Sponsored Scheme for efficient management of these areas. The details of funding under these Schemes-'Project Tiger' and 'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries' are as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Scheme	IX Plan	X Plan (Allocation)
Project Tiger	80.84	150.00
Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	82.67	350.00

Apart from regular monitoring the progress of implementation is periodically reviewed with the State Government officials at the highest level in the Ministry.

Havoc by black deers in M.P.

1117. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the havoc caused by black deers in the Shivpuri District of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) whether Government have surveyed the losses suffered by the farmers due to the damage caused to wheat, rice and Soyabean crops, and to the human lives; if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to compensate the farmers for the losses; and

(d) the steps taken to contain the menace of the black deers?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There are reports that Blackbucks are causing some damage to agricultural crops in pockets around Karera Wildlife Sanctuary in Shivpuri district of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Government have not surveyed the losses suffered by the farmers due to damage caused to the crops. However, according to rough estimates the damage is not on a large scale. Damage to human lives by Blackbucks has not been reported in this area.

(c) and (d) Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to the State Govetrnments for management of National Parks and Sanctuaries. Based on the proposals submitted by the State Governments funds are provided to implement the measures necessary to mitigate man-animal conflicts. Ecodevelopment is one such approach that is effectively used to address the damage caused by the wild animals.

Stealing of trees from reserve forests in Orissa

1118. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of